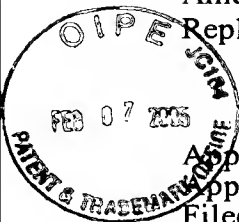


Appl. No. 09/997,464
Amdt. Dated February 3, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 3, 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 09/997,464
Applicant: Koji Maekawa, et al.
Filed: November 29, 2001
TC/A.U.: 2613
Examiner:: Behooz Senfi

Confirmation No. 6170

Docket No.: 34196
Customer No.: 000116

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action of November 3, 2004. Our check in the amount of \$300.00 is enclosed to cover the fees for two additional claims (\$100.00) and one additional independent claim (\$200.00). Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 49 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date

Signature of Attorney

01/03/2005 REF:AD001 00000035 09997464

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